

TOWN OF EMMITSBURG PLANNING COMMISSION

OCT. 30, 2017

Present: Pat Boyle (Chair), Keith Suerdieck (Vice Chair), John Howard (Sec), Cliff Sweeney.

Staff: Sue Cipperly

Meeting was called to order by the Chair at 7:30 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Disposition of Meeting Minutes from September 25, 2017 meeting. A motion to approve the minutes was submitted by Keith Suerdieck, with a second provided by Cliff Sweeney. The motion was approved by all members present.

Old Business: None

New Business: Discussion of short term rentals and other forms of accommodations relative to the town code.

A PowerPoint briefing was provided by Sue Cipperly as to short term rentals and their relationship to the current Town Code. This briefing also provided information on the status of actions taken by other jurisdictions.

The briefing led to discussion by board members which led to topics such as: Enforcement of any code changes, definitions of short term rentals, current lack of consistency among jurisdictions as to how such rentals are being addressed, guideline from the State of MD, property rights of owners both of property being rented and neighbors.

In addition a discussion was conducted concerning what steps, if any, need to be taken to address this issue. These items included but are not limited to": health & safety inspections, numbers and types of inspections needed, competition with local hotels/motels and bed & breakfast establishments, licensing of rental units,

and updates of definitions of Rental Property types in the Town Code. All this discussion was taken with that any work done should insure the rights and safety of both renters and neighbors.

Additional discussion will be undertaken at future meetings.

The statement of the current Chairperson was made at the conclusion of the meeting. Mr. Pat Boyle announced that effective Jan. 1, 2018 he will be resigning from the Planning Commission. This comes after some 40 years of service to the Town of Emmitsburg. The remaining board members offered Pat sincere thanks for his service and noted he will be missed from future meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM

Next meeting is scheduled for January 29, 2018.

J.W. Howard, Secretary.